



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Prior Art**

Application of:  
Trautman, et al  
Serial No: 09/976,763  
Filed: 12 October 2001  
For: MICROBLADE ARRAY IMPACT APPLICATOR

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)  
) Group Art Unit: 3763  
) Examiner: unknown  
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)  
)  
)  
)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

## **SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications and other information of which they are aware, which they believe an examiner may consider to be material to the patentability of the claims of this application, and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

While this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement may contain “material” information pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is either “material” or “prior art” to the invention disclosed and claimed in the above-referenced application unless specifically designated as such. Applicants specifically reserve the right, where appropriate, to avoid or antedate any such reference by the appropriate arguments or showings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 and § 1.608, or any other appropriate means.

A completed PTO Form SB/08A listing each reference which is not a U.S. Patent application is submitted herewith, and it respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of the PTO Form SB/08A be returned to the undersigned.

☐ A copy of each reference therein listed accompanies this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

**-OR-**

☐ NO copies of the references therein listed accompany this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), as each was previously cited by or submitted to the Patent

Office in prior application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, which this application relies upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is not a representation that a search has been made or that no other information material to the patentability of this invention exists.

☐ This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application, or before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later. No fee is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). However, in the event that more than 90 days from filing have elapsed and a first Office Action on the merits has been mailed, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) to Deposit Account Number 01-1173.

☒ This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted *after* three months from the date of filing or entry of the national stage of this application, or *after* the mailing of a first Office Action, whichever is later, but *before* the mailing date of either a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance.

☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account 01-1173.

**-OR-**

☒ Certification as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) follows:

☒ *Each* item of information contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application no more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

☐ *No* item of information contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

The Examiner is hereby requested to consider these references and other information and make them of record in the above-referenced application. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims of this application are patentable over the above-cited references and information. Examination and allowance of this application at an early date are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 20 May 2002

By: Owen J. Bates  
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on 20 May 2002.

ALZA CORPORATION

BY: Elizabeth Grannell  
Elizabeth Grannell

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**Complete if Known**

Application Number	09/976,763
Filing Date	10/12/2001
First Named Inventor	JOSEPH C. TRAUTMAN
Group Art Unit	3763
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	ARC 2972 R1

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Date	
Considered	

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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